

# *Servire*

The Magazine of the East Carolina Alumni Association

SPRING 2008



**Tommy Spaulding '92  
is Up with People!**





## LEADERSHIP

Chancellor Steve Ballard has been “on tour” recently sharing East Carolina’s new strategic plan, “ECU Tomorrow: A Vision for Leadership and Service.” Bob Greczyn ’73, chair of the Board of Trustees, and Carl Davis ’71, chair of the Board of Visitors, attended the Chancellor’s Tour in Raleigh on January 9.

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A 2006 Outstanding Alumni Award recipient, Tommy Spaulding '92, is all about people. East Carolina was the catalyst that helped this executive soar to new heights.



Tommy  
Spaulding '92

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#### ON THE COVER

Tommy Spaulding '92 takes a moment to pose for a photo with *Up with People* students. The non-profit leadership organization promotes global citizenship, understanding, and world peace.



#### Welcome to *Servire*, the magazine of the East Carolina Alumni Association

*Servire* takes a closer look at the accomplishments of our alumni, bringing you engaging feature articles highlighting their success. Stay up-to-date on news from ECU's colleges and schools, the Career Center, upcoming alumni events, and ways you can stay connected with your alma mater.

I often write about the spirit and passion that is evident throughout the Pirate Nation, and this letter will be no different for these qualities are the quintessential characteristic of ECU alumni. In other words, what makes our alumni so special is their spirit and passion for ECU.

On February 6 this spirit and passion was again on display as a couple hundred loyal Pirates set up a celebratory tailgate party outside Dowdy-Ficklen stadium. Widely known to college football fans as National Signing Day, it is a holiday of sorts to the most avid football enthusiasts and it was an opportunity to hear first hand about the newest crop of ECU football players. The conversations revolved around these players' "star" rankings and their potential on our revitalized program. It was a festive atmosphere to celebrate ECU and our talented student-athletes.



While the NCAA severely restricts the amount of student-athlete recruiting alumni can be involved in, it has no jurisdiction over utilizing alumni to recruit students to our campus. I would like to thank all of the alumni who helped us recruit the best and brightest students to East Carolina through our ECU Today programs held earlier this month. This program is a partnership with the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and attempts to recruit students that have applied and been accepted to ECU to make the decision to attend. Alumni had the opportunity to share their campus and subsequent professional experiences with those in attendance. Chancellor Ballard often points out that students are voting with their feet about the quality of education offered at ECU. Our enrollment has grown faster than any of the UNC system campuses over the last three, five, and seven years. To learn how you can get involved with ECU Today or other volunteer opportunities with your Alumni Association, visit us online at [PirateAlumni.com](http://PirateAlumni.com) or call us at 800-ECU-GRAD.

It is a great time to be a Pirate, just ask our newest "star" recruits—both on and off the gridiron!

### GO PIRATES!

Sincerely,

Paul J. Clifford  
Associate Vice Chancellor for Alumni Relations  
Charter Forever Pirate



## East Carolina ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

800-ECU-GRAD [PirateAlumni.com](http://PirateAlumni.com)

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# A Man for All Teams

Bill Johnson '91 knows football. An athletic guy at heart, Johnson doesn't play professional sports, but his interaction and influence with America's game keeps players and fans coming back for more. As an NFL agent, Johnson, with his ProFiles Sports, Inc. business partner, Pat Dye, Jr., has secured more than \$100 billion in NFL contracts. "It's not quite like Jerry McGuire, but it's incredibly rewarding and satisfying to be able to contribute to the lives of these players, both on and off the field," said Johnson.



**Johnson always knew he would be an ECU Pirate.** "As a boy,

my parents attended all of the ECU football games. There was this place near the end zone called the "port hole gang" where kids would get together and watch the game and have fun. I was fascinated with East Carolina football and loved going to the games with my parents. Then when I played ball at Rose High School we played on East Carolina's field and I often imagined what it would be like to play for the Pirates. But my mom and dad encouraged me to leave Greenville for at least for two years for college. So despite wanting to go to ECU, I ended up going to Louisburg College. After two years I transferred to ECU. In my mind, I saw myself graduating from ECU, so I had to come back."

Life as an ECU student was different than Johnson's formative years in Greenville. "Of course, there's the charm and quality of life that Greenville offers, but then when I was attending ECU it was as if a whole new world opened up. Attending ECU gave me an innate ability to interact with all kinds of people. At the end of the day, people do business with people they like." That appreciation for others has helped Johnson succeed in the world of professional sports, but it was his own perseverance and willingness to take risks that led him down his current career path.

"After graduating from ECU I went to work for a medical software company in Raleigh. I did well enough to get my own territory, so I moved to Orlando, Florida. I started going to Orlando Magic games and was just blown away with professional sports. I'll never forget one day I was flipping through a program and I noticed all these other people

listed as part of the team; media relations people, community relations people, the sales executives. . . in my mind the team was the coach, the owner, and the players. So I was really curious about this and started to network with some people and managed to get a meeting with one of the former team owners. At the end of the meeting he said, "Bill, I wish I'd have known you when we got this team, you could have been a great help." And that was it. That was enough for me to stop working in the medical industry and take the leap into sports. I recreated my resume to focus on the communications degree I have from ECU and packaged myself as someone who is media oriented. I talked my way into getting a position on the Magic's sales team selling radio time, TV time, signage in the arena, naming rights of the building, and all of those kinds of things." Johnson took a fifty percent pay cut to pursue a dream, but boy did it paid off! During his four years with the Orlando Magic, Johnson was three times Executive of the Year and the team's leading producer, having participated in the packaging and sales of more than \$100 million in corporate sponsorship promotional programs. He was promoted to Senior Corporate Account Executive and worked with BMW, BellSouth, Pepsi, Southwest Airlines and more. Johnson's interactions with players let him see professional sports from another angle—player representation.

Over the years Johnson had maintained a casual acquaintance with childhood friend Pat Dye, Jr., son of former ECU football coach Pat Dye. "Pat is four years older than me so when I was six and he was ten we weren't exactly 'hangin' out together,' but later on he knew me well enough that he would

take my calls. Pat would speak to me about marketing-related deals for the clients he was representing, and when I was traveling with my clients, realizing there was a gap in representation, I would speak to him about the realities of representing athletes. Those things together with the understanding that fundamentally we were both the same type of people because of how we'd been raised in Greenville, we knew that we could be partners." In 1998 Johnson joined ProFiles Sports, Inc. and has been tremendously successful ever since. "I think working with the players. . . the camaraderie with the young men. . . makes it fun and rewarding. In addition to negotiating their contracts, these young men need someone to help look out for their best interests, too. I am most proud to be able to work with outstanding players that are equally good people."

As Partner and Executive Vice President of ProFiles Sports, Inc., Johnson and the agency currently represent NFL players Keith Brooking, Reggie Brown, Charles Grant, Brian Urlacher, DeMarcus Ware, Ben Watson and many, many more. In 2002 the NFL Players Association recognized Johnson by selecting him as one of only four agents (of 900+) in the country to assist them in rewriting the new agent certification test.

"It's all been special. It's funny, you know, I've been to the Olympics, NBA all-star games and a World Championship run with Shaq. . . to Super Bowls and Pro Bowls with my guys. . . but the thing that still gets me excited to this day was sitting in Atlanta watching Jeff Blake and Luke Fisher when East Carolina beat NC State in the Peach Bowl."

Johnson is most definitely a Pirate, through and through.

## CAREER CORNER

*A service  
of the ECU  
Career Center*

### THE HIRE-A-PIRATE PROGRAM AND CAREER CONNECTIONS

The Career Center at East Carolina University coordinates the Hire-A-Pirate program that connects ECU students with businesses seeking to hire employees on a full-time, part-time, or seasonal basis, as well as interns and co-op positions. This program offers employers free online job postings through the Career Connections database to help meet their workforce needs. The Hire-A-Pirate program also assists The Career Center in compiling employment data and statistics on the working habits of ECU students and graduates.

ECU has been very fortunate to have the support of our local business community, many of whom are alumni. ECU students have worked with local businesses throughout the years, but until recently there has not been a systematic approach to help foster these connections nor track the numbers involved. With this program, ECU students benefit by having easy access not only to local part-time and seasonal employment opportunities while they are in school, but also full-time employment, internship and co-op opportunities in various locations around the country.

As an alumnus, if you would like to give back to the ECU community by providing current students with a variety of employment opportunities, you can register with our Career

Connections job database, [www.ecu.edu/e3careers/foremployers](http://www.ecu.edu/e3careers/foremployers).overview.asp.

Once registered, you can post job opportunities, track student applicants, and notify us of who is hired. Once you've posted your job opportunities, students will be able to see your job postings, business contact information, and application

procedures. As students apply, businesses may contact the students directly to schedule interviews. It is a very simple and efficient

process. A representative from The Career Center will follow-up with you periodically to obtain program feedback and to collect placement data on the students hired.

ECU alumni are also able to use Career Connections for their own job searches. Alumni can register for free via the Career Connections student login at [www.ecu.edu/e3careers/](http://www.ecu.edu/e3careers/) by clicking on Career Connections. To register, alumni must have an ECU ID. If you do not have one or not sure what it is, please contact Kristen Etheridge at [etheridgek@ecu.edu](mailto:etheridgek@ecu.edu) or 252-328-6050 for assistance.

The Career Center and the East Carolina Alumni Association are always looking for new alumni to serve as mentors in our Pirate Alumni Network (PAN). PAN is composed of alumni who are available to assist current students and new graduates in making the transition from school to work, or to assist other alumni who are changing careers or relocating to a new area. PAN members may offer advice about local job markets and the skills and academic requirements for careers in a particular occupational field. Participation in PAN does not require a large time commitment, and it is the students' responsibility to initiate the contact. Regardless of the number of users who call, your experience and insights will provide an invaluable contribution to ECU. For more information on how to become a mentor/PAN member, please visit [www.ecu.edu/e3careers/foralumni.alumninetwork.asp](http://www.ecu.edu/e3careers/foralumni.alumninetwork.asp).

We hope that ECU alumni will take advantage of our free services in any one of the following ways: to assist your business in finding well qualified employees (as a registered employer), to find new employment opportunities for yourself (as a registered student/alumnus), or to assist an ECU student/alumnus with career advice (as a registered mentor). We hope that the Hire-A-Pirate program will continue to grow and be a valued resource to alumni, students and businesses. Thank you for your support and GO PIRATES!

The Career Center may be reached at 252-328-6050 or online at [www.ecu.edu/career](http://www.ecu.edu/career).



*Senior communications major, Herchelle Levine, helps a potential renter fill out an application while working at her internship location, an area apartment complex.*



# These *are* my kids...



*Wanda Burgamy '80 hosted 14 students from The Ron Clark Academy at her Nags Head, NC home, pictured here with Ron Clark '94 and Carlester Crumpler '94.*

How we are remembered in life, is for the most part how we are perceived. For some, memories are made by their title or positions achieved; by the family they raise; or the friendships they develop. If there were but one way to be remembered, Wanda Hayes Burgamy '80, would want those memories to be in the hearts and minds of 60 very special children with whom she has been lucky enough to share some very special moments

As Business Development Manager for the Dell Intelligent Classroom, Burgamy, who helped create this innovative approach to learning, spends much of her time managing a team of specialists who assist clients in the assessment, planning, set-up, and use of the Intelligent Classroom. She also coordinates with third-party vendors whose products compliment Dell's in order to meet specific Intelligent Classroom needs. "A combination of computers and related technology such as projectors and cameras that together transform the traditional K-12 and higher education classrooms into high-tech, interactive learning centers...the Intelligent Classroom enrich[es] the learning experience for students." (Dell.com)

One particular group of students learning through the Intelligent Classroom are those attending the Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta. Burgamy met Ron Clark '94 in 2007 through an Intelligent Classroom vendor, not knowing that she and Clark both graduated from East Carolina. Upon learning more about Clark's vision for a dynamic, engaging, "learning is experiencing" school, Burgamy knew she wanted to support Clark's cause. (And it didn't hurt that ECU was an immediate source of camaraderie between

the two.) While the school was still in the building stage, Burgamy assisted Clark in determining the technological needs of the Academy. She facilitated Dell's contribution of notebook computers to each student and faculty member, additional desktop computers, servers, and other complimentary technologies. Burgamy felt so strongly about Clark's Academy that she even solicited other companies to make contributions, totaling more than \$100,000 in goods and services. "Some of these kids would have no access to this kind of technology and information if it wasn't for what we've been able to accomplish there. When I presented their computers to them, one student said to me, 'Ms. Burgamy, I've got something that no one else in my family has ever had before; I've got a computer.' The joy that it brought to them, going that extra mile, doing that extra thing to figure out how to get everybody what they needed...it has an intrinsic value that you can't measure."

Burgamy's good heart extends well beyond what Dell can provide for the Academy. When she and her husband, John, decided to relocate to Nags Head, North Carolina from Atlanta, they donated nearly all of their home's furnishings to the Academy and to

the families of its students. They also opened their home to 14 students for a weekend trip to Nags Head in October 2007. "I don't have any children of my own, but I have 60 children in whose lives I can make a difference. Outside of Dell I give a lot of my personal time to the Academy because I believe in it. These students are going to be global citizens and it's exciting to be a part of their adventure. *I'm also trying to convince all of them to be ECU students, too.*"

Lucky for the Ron Clark Academy that Burgamy changed her major in college from music therapy to business! It was ECU's music therapy program that brought Burgamy to Greenville from Hampton, Virginia. But after one semester in the program and being told she didn't have a singing voice, Burgamy turned her focus to business and the burgeoning world of computers. She has spent her career working with software design and even wrote the first reverse mortgage program for H.U.D. She has been with Dell since 2003, working exclusively with its K-12 and higher education component. She also teaches business law at the College of the Albemarle in Manteo, NC. Burgamy has a Master's in Business and is in the final steps of completing a Doctorate of Management in Organizational Leadership. But with all these collegiate accomplishments, Burgamy's favorite accolade is that, she is "Slide-Certified" at the Ron Clark Academy—an experience she attributes to her service to the school. Like ECU's motto of service, Burgamy embraces this idea through her commitment to 60 very special children and their pursuit of knowledge.



# A Pirate Remembers...

## Neel Dupree Carson '57

The art of quilting may not be enticing to some, but for Neel Dupree Carson '57 it's a passion. Her love of sewing and making practical, beautiful things was born out of tradition, passed down from generations of Dupree women. Having grown up in Belvoir, North Carolina, Carson spent a lot of time learning how to run a household, cook, and make her own clothing. Little did

her mother encouraged her to stay closer to home and attend East Carolina. "Just give East Carolina a try for one year and if you're not pleased, then I'll send you anywhere you want to go," her mother told her. "So I came over to East Carolina for the one year and I had such a wonderful time that I never wanted to go anywhere else. And of course, I met Dave '57," her husband of 49 years. The couple met at ECC through a mutual friend and after a long courtship Dave proposed the weekend of their graduation. "We had so many close friends at ECC in our 1957 class; my roommate, Jane Midyette, Pat Everton, Mozelle Bass, Ann Mayo, Ann Lassiter, and we've stayed in touch all of these years. It's just wonderful to continue that connection with East Carolina."

Carson learned many life lessons from majoring in home economics and while living in the Home Management house. "The house was divided into two sections, the economical 'apartment' side and the more expensive 'house' side. Each side, even down to the furnishings, depended on the household budget. In the 'apartment' side we had to plan meals on \$.50 a day, per person, and in the house we planned meals on \$.75 a day, per person. It was a practical experience that taught us how to run a household on a budget. It was also a learning experience. I'll never forget the time that we had to prepare a special lunch for those of us living in the house and for our invited guests.

The day arrived and that morning I opened the freezer and saw the frozen turkey still in there! I think I aged 20 years in that day. We did everything we could to thaw and cook that turkey as fast as we could to have it ready by lunchtime. I remember someone commenting during the meal, 'this is delicious dressing.' The dressing saved the day."

After graduating from ECC, Carson worked for Virginia Electric and Power Company utilizing her home

economics degree to teach customers how to use their electric appliances. She also taught cooking classes, gave home lighting demonstrations, and visited high schools to teach various classes. She and Dave were married in 1959 and Carson continued working until their family grew. It was during this time of raising her children that Carson took up quilting.

Carson has been sewing, in some form or another, for more than 50 years, and one of her most celebrated achievements is East Carolina's Centennial Quilt, which was presented during the ECTC/ECC Dinner Dance during Homecoming 2007. With 15 other quilters from the Greenville Quilters Guild, Carson helped create an artistic, historical rendering of some of the campus's most recognizable landmarks, including Wright Fountain, Old Austin Building, and Cotton Hall. The quilt is a scrapbook-style design with 25 quilted components and reflects the University's 100-year history. It was dedicated at a recognition luncheon during Founder's Week and is now on permanent display in Joyner Library.

Carson and her husband live in Greenville and are actively involved in their church, the community, and Senior Olympics. They have two children, Lee Carson Stephenson '85, and Samuel David Carson, Jr., and six grandchildren.



Carson recently stopped by the Alumni Center to present one of her quilts to Paul Clifford, Associate Vice Chancellor for Alumni Relations.

she know these skills would coincide with a degree from then East Carolina College and a successful career as a home economist and quilter.

Carson's great aunt, Elizabeth Harris, was a member of the first graduating class of East Carolina Teacher's Training School in 1911 and her mother, Anna Harris, a member of the 25th class, graduated from ECTC in 1932. So when Carson initially thought she would attend Meredith College in Raleigh,



The Centennial Quilt was unveiled during Homecoming 2007 and is on display at Joyner Library.





## A PIRATE'S LIFE FOR ME!

Have you heard stories of success about ECU alumni? If not, then tune in to the East Carolina Alumni Association's half-hour radio show, *A Pirate's Life for Me!* on Saturday mornings in eastern North Carolina on Pirate Radio 1250 and 930 AM. Don't live in North Carolina? Pirate Radio broadcasts live on their web site, [www.PirateRadio1250.com](http://www.PirateRadio1250.com)! Visit [PirateAlumni.com](http://PirateAlumni.com) to hear archived shows and sign up for our podcast. You can even download *A Pirate's Life for Me!* on iTunes. Keep reading for amazing stories of recent guests:



**"Funky" Rick Latham '77, world-renowned drumming and percussion expert**

**Q:** Your degree is in music, focused on percussion performance. Talk a little about that program and how it prepared you for what you're doing today.

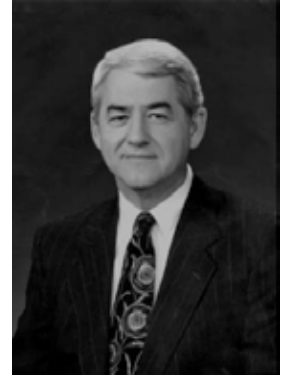
**A:** Harold Jones [percussion instructor] was a tremendous

influence on me. We studied the gamut of percussion instruments, timpani, mallets, all the classical stuff, and it's funny that I'm now primarily known as a drum set guy, R&B and jazz, rock player, and we really didn't study much drum set. It was kind of an understood joke between [Harold] and all of the students...he had a drum set in his office, but he wanted everyone to get a good, well-rounded, classical background, not just know how to play a set. [The music program] gave me a really great musical background so I can communicate with other musicians on every level.

**Dr. Jerry McGee '65, President, Wingate University and college football official**

**Q:** What has been your biggest challenge, whether it was in the classroom, higher education, or on the football field and how did you overcome it?

**A:** I think the biggest thing was believing I belonged in the President's chair, it was a hard thing for me. Because...I was just a Mill Hill kid and my mom and dad worked really hard and my grandparents worked really hard to give my brother and me opportunities that they didn't have. I kept getting promoted all along and moving from one school to another school, and when I became president [of Wingate] I sat in this office a lot the first few months and wondered, "was I worthy?" After a while you look back on your life experiences and what you can bring to the position and you realize you do have something to give the place...and it makes you feel good.



## Did you know that ECU alumni could save up to \$327.96 or more a year on auto insurance?



You may already know that East Carolina University alumni like you can get a special group discount on auto insurance through Liberty Mutual's Group Savings Plus® program\*. But did you know that Liberty Mutual offers many other discounts on both auto and home insurance? In fact, you could save up to \$327.96 or more a year on auto insurance alone\*\*. And you could save even more by insuring your home as well.

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Tommy Spaulding '92 waved to an enthusiastic Pirate crowd when he received the Outstanding Alumni Award in 2006. He was joined by fellow award recipients, Chancellor Steve Ballard, and Alumni Association Board President, Brenda Myrick '92.

## Tommy Spaulding is Up with People.

Book smart, academic whiz and top of their class — these are terms that apply to many organization presidents and CEOs, but most likely would not have been associated with Tommy Spaulding '92 when he first applied for admission to East Carolina University in 1988. What a difference four years of college can make! Now the President and CEO of *Up with People*, a non-profit global leadership organization, Spaulding took his opportunity at ECU very seriously, and took away lessons for a lifetime and personal values that have taken him all the way to the top.

Originally from upstate New York, Spaulding, an Eagle Boy Scout, was not very familiar with East Carolina University. During his senior year of high school, when all of his friends were getting ready to go off to college, he was preparing to spend a year traveling the world with Up with People. "I always had a heart for leadership and a passion for making a difference in the world." Choosing to be part of an organization dedicated to "spark people to action in meeting the needs of their

communities, countries and the world while building bridges of understanding as a foundation for world peace" ([upwithpeople.org](http://upwithpeople.org)) was an easy choice for Spaulding. It was during this year spent in the global classroom that East Carolina became a place of interest. "In my cast of 100 international students there was one from Kinston, North Carolina, a guy named Brian Kantor, who told me all about East Carolina University. I actually had a cousin, Joe Welsh, who was a senior at ECU at that time, too, so I heard about ECU and how great it was from two people." Spaulding decided to apply for admission upon the completion of his year with Up With People, and thankfully, was accepted. "ECU was actually the only school where I was accepted. I joke that my high school friends graduated magna cum laude and summa cum laude, and I graduated thank-God-almighty-cum-laude. My [high school] grades and SAT score weren't good enough to get into ECU, but they looked beyond my test scores to see the potential in me as a leader and gave me a chance."

"I think there are three types of people in

the world, in anything you do—there are the leaders, the followers, and the critics—and the question is 'which one are you going to be?' While I was a student at ECU I chose to be a leader. I was really involved in student government, I got involved in a fraternity, Sigma Phi Epsilon, and I got involved in residence life. Those are three areas where I dove deep." He served as president, resident assistant, and resident director of Garrett Residence Hall. He was sophomore, junior and senior class president, president of his fraternity, and president of IFC (Inter-Fraternity Council). "East Carolina was a sponge for leaders. If you really wanted to make a difference on campus—the opportunities were endless."

Spaulding's time at East Carolina consisted of more than just being involved as a campus leader; he truly enjoyed being with people and learning from others. Chad Harris '92, a close friend, fraternity brother, and dorm mate for two years, was an inspiration to Spaulding. After a diving accident during Harris's freshman year of college, he became paralyzed. Spaulding was



compelled to help his friend and was one of Harris' caretakers while they were in school. "Chad, who couldn't move anything from his neck down, had such a positive outlook on life and such a love for people. He had such a fierce way about him that he would never give up. It kept me humble and so appreciative of my whole college experience."

Working with Harris was pivotal and contributed to the personal growth Spaulding experienced during college; his "humanitarian-self" continued to evolve. This notion was taken one step further in the classroom where he focused on political science and a critical question that those in the major were challenged with: "What is your contribution to the world going to be after ECU?" This challenge paralleled a belief that his father instilled in him, "Making a contribution in the world is far more important [than monetary wealth]. And if you can make a contribution in the world and you can follow your heart and do what you really love to do, then wealth will come. It might not be financial wealth; it could be a wealth of friendships, a wealth of experience, or a wealth of opportunities. I realized that making money wasn't the end all. In the last twenty years of my career, since I left East Carolina, I have worked and lived on four continents and traveled to over 75 different countries. I feel that I have taken the road less traveled and I have tried to change the world – and in the process the world has kind of changed me." Spaulding's drive to change the world is fueled by a genuine love for people. "Everyone has strengths and weaknesses...we all have a special gift, and I think my special gift is that I bring a humble, loving spirit for humanity to the table, and it's contagious."

Upon graduation from East Carolina in 1992, Spaulding received the Most Outstanding Leader Award and gave a commencement address to his fellow graduates. After graduation he worked for IBM/Lotus Development in Boston, worked in Japan with the Nagano Winter Olympic Games, worked for the 1996 Dole presidential campaign, and was a finalist for the White House Fellowship Program in both 2000 and 2002. Spaulding earned an MBA from Bond University in Australia as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar and a second master's in non-profit management from Regis University as a Colorado Trust Fellow. After a successful stint in the corporate world, Spaulding founded Leader's Challenge, a Colorado-based non-profit youth program providing leadership training to high school students ([leaderschallenge.org](http://leaderschallenge.org)), in 2000. Today, Spaulding remains the Chairman of Leader's Challenge, which is now the largest high school leadership program in Colorado and has plans to grow nationally. In 2005 Spaulding was recruited back to Up with People as the forty-five-year-old organization's fifth president and CEO.

Spaulding is a member of Denver Rotary Club, a graduate of the Leadership Program of the Rockies, and a graduate of Leadership Denver. He received the prestigious Denver Business Journal's 40 Under 40 award and gave the keynote address at the event in 2006. Spaulding serves on the board of directors of the Museum of Outdoor Arts, Leader's Challenge, and Up with People. In 2006, Spaulding received East Carolina's prestigious Outstanding Alumni Award and will be the commencement speaker at ECU's May 2008 graduation. He lives in Denver with his wife, Jill; stepson, Anthony; daughter, Caroline; and have just welcomed baby boy, Thomas James III (Tate), to the family. "I have three future Pirates...and I am absolutely 100% loyal to East Carolina University. Not because of my degree from there, but because of the people there. That's what separates East Carolina from every other school. ECU took a chance on me in 1988 and for that I will forever be grateful."



## UP WITH PEOPLE

*Up with People* provides students with an extraordinary six months of traveling the world. Student ambassadors experience an intense, hands-on, education in which they form a global network of lifelong friendships.

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Service learning projects that develop insight into how different cultures address social and political challenges. Projects have included working with Hurricane Katrina victims in New Orleans and assisting immigrant populations in Italy, to helping with Tsunami relief on beaches in Thailand.

Being a part of a dynamic, professional musical production in each community. The show helps students to gain and improve their performance, music, and presentation skills. In the past, *Up with People* has performed in the Super Bowl halftime show, for the Pope in Italy, and at the Great Wall in China.

## HOW TO APPLY

*Up with People* interviews individuals between the ages of 18-29. No performing arts experience is necessary. For a free on-line application, please visit our web site [www.upwithpeople.org](http://www.upwithpeople.org).

Joel Mauney '93  
Up with People  
303-330-7433  
[jmauney@upwithpeople.org](mailto:jmauney@upwithpeople.org)

## ALLIED HEALTH

### Substance Abuse Counselor Honored By World Health Organization

by Pat Frede

When Angie Childers '05 grew up in West Virginia, she never imagined that she'd be traveling to Nepal to raise awareness, train, and educate service professionals as part of a treatment team working with the International Center for Health Concerns. A graduate of the Department of Rehabilitation Studies in the College of Allied Health Sciences, Childers continued her studies and is currently a certified rehabilitation counselor and licensed clinical addiction specialist. Her position at the McLeod Addictive Disease Center in Boone, North Carolina, led her to the unique opportunity to help train others abroad.

As an international trainer, Childers facilitated presentations on three topics; basic counseling skills and substance abuse treatment, motivational interviewing techniques, and relapse prevention. In attendance were 45 professionals from the fields of prevention counseling, nursing, medicine and other social services. Childers explained "Nepal's main substances of abuse are heroin and opiates, but there is very little substance abuse treatment available. Presently, most treatment consists of acupuncture and community programs and the majority of workers volunteer their time with little to no pay. Helping to build substance abuse treatment, education, and awareness worldwide is our goal."

The trip ended with a closing ceremony where the group was honored by the U.S. Ambassador and the World Health Organization. Childers describes her mission as "helping people find their way into recovery while battling the disease of addiction." In describing her experience she stated, "This trip taught me gratitude with no limits, the importance of human connections, and the awareness of our culture's false needs. I was saddened for the children and moved to tears on numerous occasions. The lessons I learned while on my journey changed my

soul. I plan to continue to help Nepal grow, to be part of this give-and-take relationship and to be inspired by its beautiful people."

## BUSINESS

### ECU College of Business Hosted Federal Reserve Governor Frederic Mishkin

The College of Business at East Carolina University hosted Federal Reserve Governor Frederic Mishkin as its keynote speaker for the 21st Annual Beta Gamma Sigma Distinguished Lecture Series. His lecture addressed "The Federal Reserve's tools for responding to financial disruptions."



Gov. Mishkin currently serves as one of seven members of the Federal Reserve System's Board of Governors – the primary policy-making board of the nation's central bank – which is chaired by Ben Bernanke. Gov. Mishkin took office on September 5, 2006, to fill an unexpired term ending January 31, 2014.

Gov. Mishkin has been a full professor at the Graduate School of Business at Columbia University since 1983. He held the A. Barton Hepburn Professorship of Economics from 1991 to 1999, when he was appointed Alfred Lerner Professor of Banking and Financial Institutions.

Gov. Mishkin's research focuses on monetary policy and its impact on financial markets and the aggregate economy. He has published numerous articles and is the author of more than 15 books – including a national best-selling finance textbook written jointly with Dr. Stanley Eakins, associate dean of the College of Business.

"It was an honor to host Gov. Mishkin in eastern North Carolina," Dr. Frederick Niswander, dean of the College of Business, said. "His remarks gave interesting

insight into our dynamic economy and the role of the financial system. It was a rare opportunity to hear from someone who directly shapes monetary policy for the nation."

The College of Business established the Beta Gamma Sigma Distinguished Lecture Series in 1986. Held annually, the Series is designed to bring notable speakers to Greenville whose perspectives enrich both the ECU community as well as the general public. The Series is made possible by a gift from retired businessman Donald B. Boldt, who also served as an instructor and assistant dean for graduate programs in the College of Business.

## EDUCATION

### ECU's College of Education Publishes Second Online Journal Issue

The Journal of Curriculum and Instruction (JoCI) released its second issue: "Social Studies Teaching & Learning: Preparing Citizens for a Global Society," featuring guest editor Dr. Tina L. Heafner from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Dr. Merry Merryfield, a national content expert in the field of global education for K-12 students, wrote the invited article titled "Worldmindedness: Taking Off the Blinders." Articles in the Research Forum, Practitioner Platform, and Perspective sections address timely issues in preparing students for a global society. The journal is open-access and thus is available at no cost to readers. It may be accessed online at [www.joci.ecu.edu](http://www.joci.ecu.edu)

JoCI provides a forum to share articles focused on research, practice, and related issues relevant to teaching and learning in the pre-K–12 environment. The journal is published by the Department of Curriculum and Instruction (C&I) and the College of Education. The JoCI editorial team is comprised of Dr. Terry S. Atkinson, Dr. Bill Grobe, Dr. Diane Kester, Dr. Katherine A. O'Connor, Dr. Sue Byrd Steinweg, Dr. Elizabeth Swaggerty, and Dr. Guili Zhang.





*The JoCI editorial team. Front row (l-r): Dr. Terry Atkinson, Dr. Elizabeth Swaggerty, Dr. Katie O'Connor. Back row (l-r): Dr. Sue Steinweg, Dr. Diane Kester, Dr. Guili Zhang, Dr. Bill Grobe*

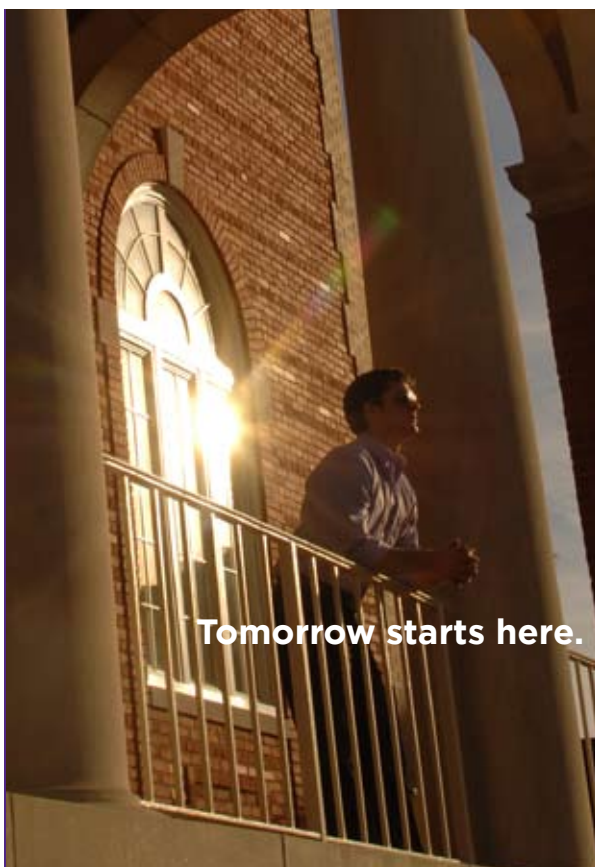
The journal is supported by both the Department of Curriculum and Instruction and the College of Education to provide up-to-date information for educators. The first issue of JoCI, "Literacy: Best Practices in an Age of High-Stakes Assessment,"

purpose is to expand and improve access to research information. JoCI utilizes a double-blind peer review process in which articles are reviewed by two experts in the field who are not given information about the author. JoCI publishes themed issues semiannually.

has been very well received. Articles from this issue are used in courses across several universities and by public school faculty. Articles have been accessed over 4,500 times by 2,742 individuals in 1,032 cities in 68 countries. It is evident that the journal is reaching readers around the world.

Open Journal Systems, a journal management and publishing system developed by the Public Knowledge Project, was used to create the JoCI site. The Public Knowledge Project's

The journal features five distinct sections including From My Point of View, By Invitation, Research Forum, Practitioner's Platform and Perspective. The third themed issue, "Addressing the Needs of All Learners," will be published in July 2008. The audience for this journal includes higher education faculty, pre-K-12 teachers, graduate students in education, pre-service teacher education candidates, school administrators, and educational policymakers with an interest in curriculum and instruction. Contributors to the journal include researchers and practitioners from pre-K-12 schools, colleges, and universities. Themes (such as technology, partnerships, action research, multicultural education, and teacher preparation) are selected in an effort to identify common threads across content areas related to curriculum and instruction. To read articles, submit a manuscript to the online journal, or become a reviewer, visit [www.joci.ecu.edu](http://www.joci.ecu.edu). For more information contact Dr. Diane Kester, Executive Editor, JoCI, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education, East Carolina University at [joci@ecu.edu](mailto:joci@ecu.edu)



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## HUMAN ECOLOGY

### CBS's Byron Pitts will deliver Carolyn Freeze Baynes Lecture



CBS National Correspondent Byron Pitts will be guest lecturer at ECU's Carolyn Freeze Baynes Memorial Lecture in Social Justice in April. Mr. Pitts, who began his career in media as a weekend

sports anchor (1983-84) for WNCT-TV in Greenville, has covered many of the biggest stories in recent years, including the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Hurricane Katrina, and the crisis in Kosovo, to name a few. He has also contributed stories to 60 Minutes, the television news show.

Raised by a single mother in Baltimore, Byron Pitts was illiterate until the age of twelve and had a constant stutter. With great effort on his part and the support of a few key people in his life, he managed to graduate high school, attend Ohio Wesleyan University, and pursue a career in broadcast journalism.

Mr. Pitts' lecture will reflect his view that, "The nation has lost confidence in our politicians—the ongoing war on terror, the surge in violent crime in America—all point to a lack of leadership. My own personal journey through illiteracy and stuttering speak to some of the very same issues: personal responsibility, education and training, mentoring and nurturing—all essential ingredients in making someone into a leader."

The lecture will be held on April 8, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. in Hendrix Auditorium on the East Carolina campus. The lecture is

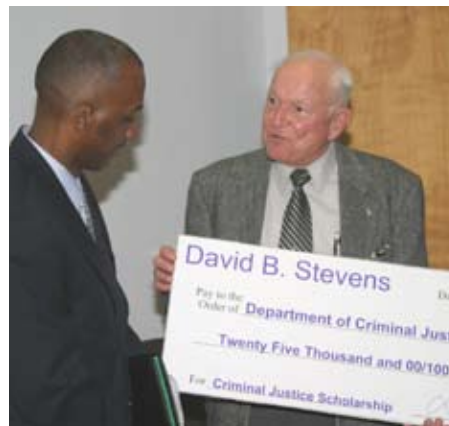
sponsored by the Division of Student Life and the College of Human Ecology. It is free of charge and open to the public. For information on the lecture, call the Carolyn Freeze Baynes Institute for Social Justice at 252-328-1448 or e-mail Mary Jackson [jacksonmar@ecu.edu](mailto:jacksonmar@ecu.edu). For information on the Carolyn Freeze Baynes Institute for Social Justice, visit [www.ecu.edu/che](http://www.ecu.edu/che).

### Conference room is named for David and Willa Stevens

In November, the College of Human Ecology honored Dr. David B. Stevens by naming a conference room for him and his deceased wife, Willa H. Stevens. The conference room, located on the second floor of the Thomas W. Rivers Building, is now known as the David B. and Willa H. Stevens Conference Room.

In 1971, David Stevens was asked by President Leo Jenkins to become East Carolina University's first attorney to help stem the tide of protests by students alleging gender discrimination on campus. During his tenure as university attorney from 1971 until his retirement in 1989, Dr. Stevens maintained a heavy workload, monitoring compliance with federal and state guidelines in hiring practices, student rights, financial aid, and administrative procedures. While university attorney, Dr. Stevens also taught two undergraduate courses: Case Law in Social Welfare Legislation and Criminal Law.

Dr. Stevens recently donated \$25,000 to establish the David B. and Willa H. Stevens Scholarship in Criminal Justice. In 1982,



Dr. and Mrs. Stevens established the David B. and Willa H. Stevens Scholarship in Social Work.

At the conference room dedication, Dr. Stevens presented a mock check for the newly established scholarship to James F. Anderson, chair of the Department of Criminal Justice. The dedication was attended by Dr. Stevens' family, former ECU students and co-workers, College of Human Ecology faculty and staff, and many of Dr. Stevens' friends.

## TECHNOLOGY & COMPUTER SCIENCE

### ECU Construction Management Instructor Delivers Hope to People in Nicaragua

Many people kicked off 2008 with hopeful New Year's resolutions such as losing weight, going to the gym, quitting smoking, or spending more time at home instead of work. Unfortunately, by the end of the first week of January, those resolutions are often history.

The same cannot be said for how Bryan Wheeler spent his first full week of 2008. The East Carolina University Construction



*Wheeler building a foundation.*

Management teaching instructor led a team of volunteer workers to one of the world's most poverty stricken nations, Nicaragua. His was not a hopeful resolution, but a resolution to deliver hope.

"The people in these towns and villages have nothing," Wheeler said. "They struggle to find food for their families and their drinking water supply came from a dirty contaminated creek following a rain storm."

Wheeler, who joined ECU in the fall of 2007, tapped into his 13 years of construction coordinator experience to join

*continued on page 16*



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## Technology & Computer Science

*continued from page 14*

forces with the First United Methodist Church in Wilson, North Carolina to make this trip. The team of 25 eastern North Carolinians arrived in Nicaragua January 5 and began working the very next day.

"We don't typically work on Sundays, but there was such a need for our help, that we all decided to jump right in and get going," Wheeler added.

On January 6, the team was driving to San Jose, Nicaragua. Knowing there were about 100 children at their destination point, they stopped to get groceries. Wheeler and company made 100 bologna sandwiches, passed them out to the kids, and were stunned by their reaction.

"Not a single child took a bite of the sandwich. They thanked us and scattered." Wheeler was told that this area was extremely poor and the children, all ages 2-12 years old, were taking the sandwiches home to their families so they could all share.

The team's first task was to renovate, repair, and paint a wing of a 30-year-old hospital that cared for pre-mature babies. Conditions are much different in Nicaraguan hospitals than in the United States. It is very common for 3-5 people to share a room, regardless of their illnesses. When the day was done, ten hospital rooms in the preemie wing looked like new and the mothers of these tiny gifts of hope could stay with them in the hospital.

The following day led the group to a village in San Jose where two school buildings, a church and church facility, needed a major overhaul.

Wheeler said this team was strong in construction experience and knowledge and was put to the test at every step. "We replaced windows and basically completed a full restoration process on each site, which included simple repairs all the way to totally painting both schools inside and out."

The most grueling work is often the most rewarding and that was never more evident than what this group accomplished on January 10 in San Jose. The 450 residents live in houses

built from bamboo trees and use black plastic wrapping around the roof and walls to protect from cold temperatures and rain. The children are being raised by children and the average age for girls to begin having babies is 12. Additionally, the best student in the class at the end of the term becomes the teacher of the next class.

"We knew there were some things that we couldn't change about the culture in this country," Wheeler said. "However, when we learned they had no clean water supply, we knew something could be done."

The team cleared out a 10 x 20 foot area behind the church up on a hill and decided to construct a clean water supply area for the residents. Wheeler said the first step was to build a solid foundation.

"We used a shelter near the church to mix the concrete by hand and carried it in buckets to the site. The next step was moving these huge slabs of rock, each weighing 90 pounds, up the hill to the foundation."

And the job required a total of 50 of those huge slabs of rock to be done properly. Once the foundation was completed, it was ready to hold a pair of

650-gallon water tanks. From there the residents jumped in and hand dug a trench from the foundation up a mountain to a clean water spring.

"It was about 1500 meters worth of trench that was then filled with a tube that ran from the clean water spring to the water supply tanks," said Wheeler. "Another team

heading to Nicaragua later would bring a solar panel chlorination system to the village."

The team members weren't doing this for thanks or appreciation, but they got it anyway.

The church pastor in San Jose said, "We are

extremely grateful to our brothers and sisters from the United States for all their help."

This is Bryan Wheeler's 16th foreign mission trip and second to Nicaragua, but for him, the most rewarding feeling comes from the faces of the children. And there was one 12-year-old girl in particular who said something Wheeler will never forget. "Her name is Maria and in a culture where most girls her age are destined for poverty and raising children as a child, she wanted more. 'I want to stay in school and I hope to become an architect.' That blew me away to hear her say that."

He freely admits making a trip like this isn't for everyone, but says the willingness to help others is something each of us should pursue, in some form or fashion.

"We [ECU faculty and staff] all have special skills that are unique to only us," Wheeler encourages. "For some it's medicine, religion, or just a wish to serve others. For me, it's construction."

So one week into the new year and Bryan Wheeler, and a team of volunteers from our state, has already fulfilled his resolution, by delivering hope.



*A typical "home" in a poor area of San Jose, Nicaragua.*



*25 member team that traveled to Nicaragua.*



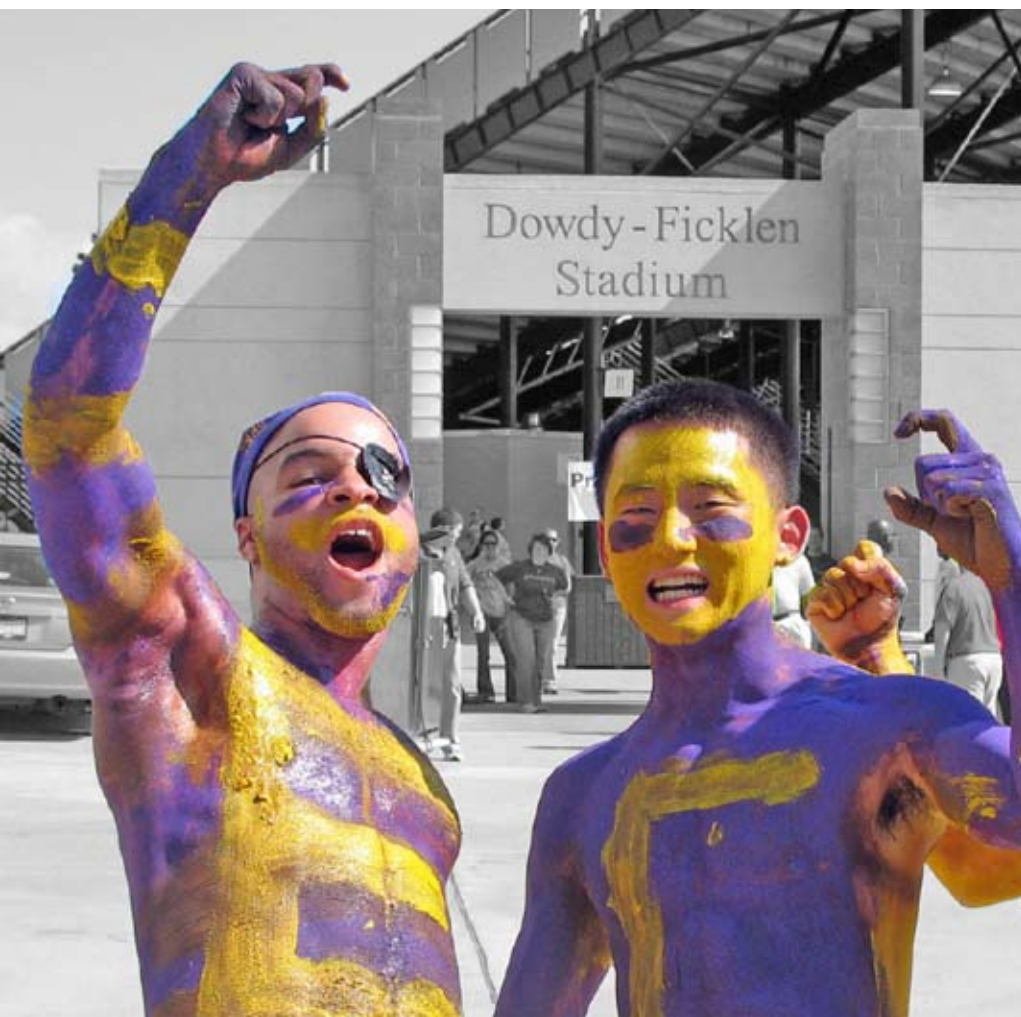
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit [PirateAlumni.com/upcomingevents](http://PirateAlumni.com/upcomingevents) for details on these and other alumni events.

**April 3**

Pirate Career Call: Time Management  
Chancellor's Tour - Wilmington

**April 4-6**

ECU Gospel Choir Reunion

**April 4-5**

ECU Relay For Life

**April 5**

Scholarship Luncheon

**April 12**

Pirate Alumni Road Race and Fun Run

**April 19**

Softball Reunion

**May 16**

NY Metro Centennial Scholarship Celebration

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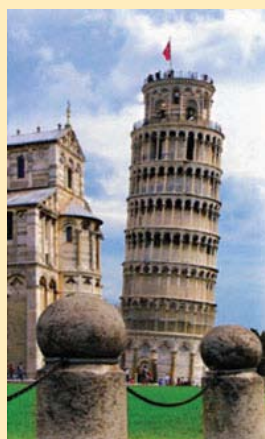
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The Alumni Association provides a means for alumni to keep in touch with their alma mater. The membership program, which supports alumni and student programs as well as student scholarships, is a way for dedicated alumni to enhance their relationship with the University. Our program offers many benefits, including discounted pricing on alumni events such as Tailgate, *Servire* (our quarterly magazine) and *East* (the magazine for ECU), and most importantly, the pride in knowing your membership furthers the mission of the Alumni Association!

*It's a great time to be a member!*



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Membership in the East Carolina Alumni Association is not limited to ECU alumni. Parents and friends of the University are welcome to share the connection with East Carolina and be part of our family. What better way to support student scholarships, career-building opportunities, and the programs of the Alumni Association that keep our family connected than through membership? **Give the gift of membership and join today!**

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